

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE DISTR. 28 MAR 50

**SUBJECT** Possible Successor to MAO Tse-tung in Event  
of His Removal

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1. If for any reason MAO Tse-tung should be removed from the political scene in China, his successor would have to bear CHU Te's seal of approval. MAO's power is supported by CHU, who controls the army and who likes MAO personally and believes he is fitted to run the state. CHU considers himself a competent soldier but lacking in the art of statesmanship.\*

20 January 1950

2. In the event of MAO Tse-tung's removal from office, his post would be filled by CHANG Wen-t'ien (also known as LO Fu).\*\*

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Comment. It is doubtful that CHOU En-lai and LIU Shao-chi will rise above their present positions. CHOU is considered especially good at liaison, and LIU is an excellent theoretician but impractical.

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